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The Statistical Experience Data of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md., 1892-1911. By Frederick L. Hoffman, LL. D., F. S. S. The Johns Hopkins Hospital Reports—Monographs. New Series, No. IV. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1913. pp. 161.

In this monograph the author has made a distinct contribution to hospital and medical statistics. In the opening pages a plea is made for uniformity in hospital blanks and for the necessity of distinguishing sex and age in any tabulation or analytical work on mortality or morbidity. During the twenty-year period ending with January 31, 1912, the total number of male cases treated in the Johns Hopkins Hospital was 41,026 and of female cases 41,399. The material during the decade 1902-1911 was analyzed in more detail than during the earlier decade. During the later decade the average admission rate to the hospital was 81.8 per 10,000 population of the city of Baltimore. For white males the admission rate was 79.9 and for white females 70.4. For colored males the admission rate was 99.9 and for colored females 135.4.

The experience of the hospital during the decade ending with January 31, 1912, includes 22,819 male and 24,138 female patients. The average mortality rate was 7.6 per cent. for males and 4.1 per cent. for females. The white male death rate during this decade was 6.6 per cent. and for colored males it was 12.6 per cent. For white female patients the death rate was 3.6 per cent. and for colored 5.3 per cent. The mortality was high under 15 years of age, reached the minimum for the group 15 to 24 years and then increasing with advancing years. The rate for those 65 years and over was uniformly higher than for any earlier decennial age group. It is therefore evident that it is unfair to compare the mortality rates of different hospitals without taking into consideration the age at which the patients are admitted and, at the same time, whether surgical or medical cases are in the majority. In the monograph death rates are computed according to the principal causes of admission.

Following the analytical section of the report is included a bibliography covering 5 pages. After this the detailed tables covering over 100 pages complete the volume. No student of the subject of morbidity or mortality can afford to leave this monograph unread. It is to be hoped that other hospitals will tabulate and publish their experiences along the lines laid down by Dr. Hoffman.

W. B. B.